

Minutes Tree Board 10-5-22

Present: Dan, Robin, Ralph, Ernie, James, Steve.

**Tree Care Seminar** was informative. Tree planting was reviewed. A Red Oak was donated by the grant and planted. The tree assessment of plantings that died speculated that perhaps the Spruce was planted too deeply due to an aberrant root, and possibly in clay soil the cherry was overwatered. Ernie Lawrence wrote and submitted for publication a report.

**The annual Tree City USA application** will be submitted by Ernie. He will get the specific budget numbers and the tree totals from Steve.

**Fall Urban Forestry grant** of \$1000 is contingent on our submitting a report of our planting event and invoice which we should be able to submit after the fall planting. This was for the Elm Street theme planting and Festival Plaza tree replacement. Dan will compile and submit the grant report after the fall planting.

**Silver maple at 7 Andrus.** In the past, prior owners requested removal of the large tree there. Instead it was trimmed. With further requests by the prior owner for removal, removal was planned and marked. But because the property was sold before removal, and the broken sidewalk removed, and the tree is healthy, the tree board recommended last meeting against removal of the tree and the mark was painted over. The tree is appreciated by neighbors and has shaped well around the power lines. However, August 1 the new owners requested removal due to effects on the sidewalk and the power lines. We have again assessed the health of the tree during our work days, and it appears that the tree is healthy and the sidewalk is safe. We discussed that tree roots in sewers are primarily a problem with the sewer line itself, and tree removal usually will not solve the root problem in cracked sewer lines. The expense of removal and the priority of a number of other removals also factored into the discussion. We voted to recommend the tree not be removed. There is a provision in the Standards and Specifications that allows approved removals with replacement at owner expense.

“Tree removal by the Village may be requested by an adjacent property owner, but unless removal is necessary due to interference with traffic or pedestrian safety or with the provision of electricity, gas, sewer, water, telephone and cable television to properties, removal and replacement for other purposes would be at the expense of the property owner. Trees removed from public property or rights-of-way shall be replaced at least one for one, with tree species as recommended by the Tree Board within a reasonable time period, unless there are extenuating considerations approved by the Tree Board or Superintendent of Public Works.”

Dan will convey a response to the Village Clerk.

**Flagging.** We will meet 10 am Saturday 10/15/22 for flagging the fall planting sites. Steve will call them in over the next week or so. The nursery said delivery will be the last week of the month, earlier this year. The list of planting locations for the fall planting was submitted to Steve.

**Mulching.** Steve will order some mulch (perhaps a quarter load) for the fall tree mulching, which we will probably do at the work day November 2.

**Spring planting** plans were reviewed; sights were discussed last meeting. The spring B and B availability list has not yet been published.

**PoeTree** school program plans are not yet finalized. James, after talking to Felisa, suggested we consider changing the format this year to video clips about trees and their benefits, but would like more time to formalize a proposal.

Next quarterly meeting January 5, 2023 7pm Village Hall. Next work evening 6:30 pm November 2.

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